

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1858.

Business Notice.

As the business of the Union establishment, in view of the proposed change in its terms, will be conducted strictly on a cash basis, all agencies for the collection of subscriptions for the Union are discontinued. No payments should be made to Agents after this date, except to Mr. C. L. Lippincott, Jr., who is authorized to make collections in Baltimore, Maryland, and Virginia.

Washington, March 25, 1858.—

The foregoing notice is not intended to include any agents or collectors who have been employed by the Union establishment in this city, but those only who have performed such service in other parts of the country.

At 25—1.

ENGLAND: THE REPRESENTATIVE OF FREE INSTITUTIONS IN EUROPE—THE ANGLO-FRENCH ALLIANCE.

England is the only considerable power in Europe which maintains a constitutional government. The entire continent is a fortified camp—a grand military establishment—where commands and sovereign authority over cabinets, courts and legislatures. There is, strictly speaking, no civil administration. The animating principle of all government in the War Office. These simple facts should be remembered in connexion with the Anglo-French alliance. They give us the key to unlock and expose the motives of the two parties, and furnish us at the same time with material by which we can judge of the probable duration of the compact. We are in this country deeply interested in understanding the character of the alliance. Nobody doubts the sentiments of the British nation upon it. They contemplate no surrender of their rights—no sacrifice of the principles of constitutional government—no backward movement looking to the disfranchisement of the people. They would have no alliance which could weaken their power as a free nation. They constitute the break-water against which the surges of military despotism on the Continent may beat in vain. Strengthened by local fortifications and by a colossal naval power, all in command, the citadel of their power, after all, is in the judgment and indomitable will of the people themselves. They are unconquerable; and their vigilance, watchfulness, and sagacity are equal to their courage and fidelity to the cause of free government. However much we may find to condemn in our great excesses, we have no just right to suspect them of treachery to the cause of free institutions. They maintain a monarchical system, but their progress towards popular enfranchisement has been steady, uniform, and certain ever since the great charter was wrested from King John. Then, what means the Anglo-French alliance? Does it look to the accomplishment of any purposes inconsistent with the integrity of the British system of government? Does it embrace an understanding that free institutions shall remain quite intact in England, and elsewhere be treated as tares in the political vineyards of the world? Has England purchased an exemption from assaults upon herself by agreeing to principles of active intervention elsewhere? Is the decrepit monarchy of Spain to be rejuvenated?—are the broken columns of Spanish power to be removed and the old structure repaired and fortified under the direction of the great architects and engineers of Paris? We cannot believe so. Such a programme would be equivalent to the abdication of government in England. The institutions of that country are not old furniture to be thus laid away in safe storage. The British navy, so long the mistress of the seas, is not thus to be dismantled or hidden under the safeguards of her forts and arsenals. England has not lost her courage as well as her sagacity. But these are analytical speculations only. Time will develop their justice and their injustice. Meanwhile the American people have no right to infer that our transatlantic brethren contemplate the least, the very least surrender of the great principles of popular rights in their alliance with the government of Napoleon. Indeed, if we were ambitious of the distinctions of prophecy, we should say that any attempt on the part of France to intervene in American affairs for the purpose of re-establishing monarchical rule on this Continent would test the strength and ultimately break the back of the Anglo-French alliance. We can have no political league with England; but we have an industrial connexion with that country which is more powerful, enduring, and vigorous than the British constitution itself. This is not the language of extravagance. It is the simple truth, of which we are perpetually notified by the intercourse of the two peoples, and by their thorough identification in a comprehensive and minute system of mutual exchange of products, and consequent dependence one upon the other. This is our alliance with England; and, without expressing a word of disapproval, we should say that the Anglo-French compact will endure long after the Anglo-French compact shall have been forgotten even by historical readers. The day has gone by when nations can be so controlled and governed by the personal ambitions schemes of individuals. There is a law now which governs mankind—a law which may not, for the moment, be executed, but which, in spite of all obstructions, will find means for its own ultimate enforcement. Those who rule in Europe ought to feel that, though they are supreme to-day, their tenures are no longer of divine origin, and that the car of revolution, whose wheels seem so completely blocked, may again be set in motion by the irresistible power of the popular will. At least, they ought to be wise enough not to undertake a system of expansion which shall attempt to exercise power on this side of the water. We cannot speak for the London cabinet; but we hold it to be impossible that the British people would ever consent to a movement in their rear, which, being successful, would place them at the mercy of the absolutistic governments of Europe.

her own great navy and her sea-coast fortifications have done. We have organized an irresistible reserve, which exercises, through its industrial system, a direct and potent influence upon the people of the whole world; and that with a trained and practiced militia force of a million and a half of men; with a monopoly of science; a powerful commercial marine; a country full of resources; a people wealthy and prosperous, and a government without debt, places us upon vantage ground which we trust is sufficient to exempt us from all intervention from abroad. All this is really defensive of England. The latter, in comparison with the great governments of the continent, is weak and powerless; but as the European representative of free institutions, if she is true to her position, fortified by the United States, she is still invincible.

THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT.

We lay before the readers of the *Union* to-day the elaborate report of Mr. Secretary Thompson on the affairs of the Department of the Interior. The contents of this branch of the public service are directly interesting to a large portion of the American people. We embraced a recent occasion to present some of the leading features of this great department of the government, and if there are any who regard our remarks as at all exaggerated they will only recur to the details of the Secretary's report to correct their impressions and vindicate the truth of what we said. There is no branch of the service to compare at all, in the magnitude, intricacy, and variety of its operations, with what is placed in the hands of Mr. Thompson. Either of the four chief offices under his general charge—the Land, the Pension, the Patent, and the Indian—embraces an amount of important and delicate duties which might well claim the exclusive attention of the best intellect in the country. But, in addition to these several offices, which are under the immediate charge of commissions—gentlemen of the highest qualifications and merit—the Secretary of the Interior is required to superintend a great variety of other business of a troublesome and perplexing nature. We have no time to enter into an analysis of the report, and it is quite unnecessary to do so, as the affairs of that department are of such absorbing interest that few will neglect to read the detailed history of it which the Secretary has so ably rendered.

THE JACKSON MONUMENT AT MEMPHIS.—A bust of Gen. Jackson, by Frazee, is to be inaugurated at Memphis on the 8th of January next. Hon. Jefferson Davis has been invited to deliver an oration, and there will be other appropriate ceremonies. The bust is to be protected by a dome, copied as to its plan as nearly as consistent with architectural taste from that which, at the Hermitage, covers the tomb of General and Mrs. Jackson.

NEWS FROM PIKE'S PEAK.—The St. Louis papers mention the arrival there, in twenty-two days from Pike's Peak, of a party of Georgia gold-miners. They left the Georgia mines on the 9th of last February, and arrived at their destination on the 23d of June. Since then they have been engaged in mining and prospecting with uniform success. They are old miners, having worked for years, both in California and Georgia, and being thoroughly conversant with mining operations. They left in regard to the Cherry Creek diggings is entitled to much consideration. With the present rule implements at the mines, from three to ten dollars can be easily made per day; when proper machinery is introduced, the amount will be increased four-fold. The gold is of a rich quality, and appears of increasing value. The richness of the vein of the mines around in all kinds of game. The soil is highly productive. Coal has been found at the base of the mountains on the Platte, in seams of from one to twelve feet thick.

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS.

Hon. Henry M. Phillips has been elected Grand Master of the order of Free Masons of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Cozens has read to the New York publishers his report connected with the International Copyright Congress at Frankfurt.

Henrietta Polk, who was brought from Utah by John E. Smith, to instruct her in the duties of her government, sailed for England on Wednesday, in the Africa.

Capt. Charles H. Harper, who died recently at Louisville, commanded the "Gibraltar" of that city during their Mexican campaign, and distinguished himself at Monterey.

Mr. Ashbel Smith, who was the minister of Texas at Paris and London prior to her annexation, has retired from political life, and taken charge of a large academy at Houston.

Gerrit Smith figures that, taking in the expense of travelling, establishing newspapers, feeding pauper followers, &c., his new party cost him the late election cost him just thousands of dollars each.

Edw. Early has returned to his home at Lynchburg, Va., from the frontier conferences, in feeble health. During his trip he has travelled some four thousand miles; no inconsiderable portion of it over the wilds of the backs of Indian ponies, and over prairies where the mud was so deep that it was with difficulty that his roadway could be made.

Col. Burns and his brother Willie were guests at a dinner party given by General Beveridge, at their place on the 22d Oct. The Colonel (writes one who was present) seems quite infirm, although only sixty-four years of age; his hair is white as snow, and his hand trembles very much. He spoke of his father, of his mother, of Scotland; had lived in India nearly thirty years, and during that time having had a day's sickness. He talks of and sings his father's songs. He sang the air which Robert Burns wrote to his mother, a very sweet thing, and "John Anderson my Joe."

THE WANDERER.—Some of the officers and crew of this new vessel have arrived at Charleston. She is now off our southern coast, and may be expected here in a few days. She is reported to have been left at the New York, Georgia, in charge of Capt. W. C. Conner, who had obtained a clearance at that port. She had previously landed further south, after a dashing frolic on the broad Atlantic, and doing, no doubt, some naughty things. She will, however, receive a cheerful and forgiving welcome. She had a narrow escape before landing from a gale.—*Charleston News, 6th.*

A proposition to raise by the 1st of January next \$100,000 as an endowment for Randolph Macon College has been so far successful that only \$6,000 remain to be provided.

Hon. Edward Everett and the New York Ledger.—

In our advertising columns will be found the prospectus of the New York Ledger, which contains all the particulars relative to Mr. Everett's engagement to write for that paper. The Louisville Journal, in speaking of this engagement, says:

"The Hon. Edward Everett has paid over to the Vermont Association ten thousand dollars, received by the New York Ledger, for the purpose of contributing to the giving of that paper, throughout the coming year, original weekly contributions, under the head of 'Mount Vernon Papers.' This, indeed, is such an arrangement as no other publisher in the United States, if in the New York Ledger, has ever before made. It is a noble living, and we know not where to look for his equal in taste, and knowledge, and genius, and in grace, beauty, splendor, and magnificence of thought and diction. The fact that a writer like him has engaged, at an extraordinary rate of remuneration, to contribute regularly to a weekly family newspaper, must, of course, create an immense demand for that paper everywhere throughout the nation; and when it is known that, in addition to his splendid contributions, the same paper has the whole services of twenty or thirty other writers, each of whom has a national reputation, the aggregate of the whole will amount to at least thirty thousand dollars a year, and probably more, surely the demand cannot fail to be literally tremendous. The Ledger's present circulation, of nearly half a million, may be expected to rise rapidly to a million."

been made for the embellishment of the national capital. More than twenty-four millions of dollars have already been expended from the treasury for public buildings and other purposes, and improvements are now in progress, to complete which large additional amounts will be required. In addition to the public buildings, the United States still retains diverse life, squares, and reservations in the city of Washington, which, at the assessed value, are worth \$13,412,293 36. Under such circumstances, the people of the whole country must ever feel a deep and abiding interest in the prosperity and progress of their metropolis.

With a view to the good government of the people of the District of Columbia, Congress, at an early day, re-enacted the laws of Maryland then in force, and it has since, as occasion seemed to require, passed others for their benefit, and provided the means necessary for their enforcement. It has also, in the improvement of the city of Washington, the inhabitants have also, by special enactments, been authorized to provide for all matters of local interest within their respective limits. The corporate authorities of each have been invested with full and unrestricted power to levy and collect taxes, and to expend the same in any manner which, in their judgment, may conduce to the health and improvement of their city and the general good and prosperity of the people thereof.

The past legislation of Congress has been examined with some care, to ascertain, if possible, whether any fixed or determinate line of policy has ever been adopted in reference to objects of appropriation within the city of Washington; what class of improvements Congress has undertaken to make, and what has been left for the city. But the search has been in vain, or, rather, Congress has from time to time made appropriations for almost every conceivable object. Public squares and open spaces have been enclosed and improved, streets and avenues have been graded and paved, and have been lighted along them and are still kept burning, shade trees throughout the city have been planted and protected, sewers and drains have been constructed and kept open, a police force has been maintained under the control of the Mayor of the city, the portion of the City Hall in which the circuit and district courts are held, the penitentiary, the jail, the penitentiary, the infirmary, several engineering houses, and the army have been built, and the bridges across the Potomac and Eastern Branch have been erected and are still kept up by appropriations from the Treasury of the United States. With this record of past legislation, it is not surprising that the people of the city should turn their eyes to Congress, and not to the city authorities, when any appropriation is needed or desired for additional improvements of a public character. Hence, petitions have been presented representing the various wants of the city, and concluding with the request, that the regular routine of the city authorities be suspended, and that the people of the city should be allowed to turn their eyes to Congress, and not to the city authorities, when any appropriation is needed or desired for additional improvements of a public character. Hence, petitions have been presented representing the various wants of the city, and concluding with the request, that the regular routine of the city authorities be suspended, and that the people of the city should be allowed to turn their eyes to Congress, and not to the city authorities, when any appropriation is needed or desired for additional improvements of a public character. 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